MAR 3 1 2003

PATENT Case No. 420

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:) Examiner: Peter Chin Hartmut Schulz Group Art Unit: 1731

Serial No. 10/006,318

Filed: November 13, 2001

For: DECORATIVE PAPER WITH A HIGH OPACITY

APROZZOGO IS BE' I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 35,2008 D.C. 20231 on_

(Date of Deposit) nannon Wallace Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Rep

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ON REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

A Notice of Allowance was mailed in the above captioned 2003. A Request for Continued application on January 14, filed concurrently herewith together with an Examination is Information Disclosure Statement. Preliminary to the continued examination please amend the above captioned application as follows: In the Claims:

- (Twice Amended). A decorative base paper for decorative coating materials, comprising a pigment mixture of titanium dioxide and talc, wherein the talc has a content of 0.1 to 25 wt% based on the total pigment content, and a particle size distribution D50 of less than approximately $2.0\mu m$.
- (Once Amended). A decorative paper or decorative sheet containing a decorative base paper, said base paper comprises a pigment mixture of titanium dioxide and talc, wherein the talc has a content of 0.1 to 25 wt% based on the total pigment content, and 3 the talc has a particle size distribution D50 of less than